

STATE AIDS TASK FORCE (SATF) AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

July 23, 2008

PRESENT

Jennifer Stoll-Hayadia, Chair, Washoe County District Health Department, (WCDHD)
Mary Pennington, HIV/AIDS Program Manager, Bureau of Community Health Services, (BCHS)
Lindsay Lightfoot, Northern Nevada HOPES
Gary Vrooman, Nevada AIDS Project, Ryan White Council, Southern Nevada
Dave Parks, Assemblyman, Nevada Assembly, Clark County
Maria Canfield, Health Bureau Chief 2, BCHS
April Romo, Administrative Assistant 3, BCHS

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Jennifer Stoll-Hayadia called the meeting to order. All interested parties were present. The meeting began at **8:55 AM** at the Bureau of Community Health Services, 4150 Technology Way, Suite 101, Carson City, Nevada. This was a public meeting that was also teleconferenced for the public's convenient access.

The attendees introduced themselves.

REVIEW OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE PURPOSE

Ms. Stoll-Hayadia stated the purpose of the AD HOC subcommittee evolved from the State AIDS Task Force meeting in March, 2008. The discussion of potential Legislative activities related to HIV/AIDS topic was an agenda item with presenter's offering some ideas they had and it was determined an subcommittee be created to brainstorm ideas and to present recommendations at the next full State AIDS Task Force meeting in October. Over all, the goal was to discuss any potential bill draft requests (BDR's) that relate to the State AIDS Task Force Mission and to make BDR's proposals.

REVIEW OF 2009 LEGISLATIVE PROCESS AND DEADLINES

Assemblyman Dave Parks advised there are certain deadlines for the submission of BDR's and suggested the earlier the BDR's are submitted, the more likely they would receive assistance from the bill drafters and have more time would be available to review the BDR. The first BDR deadline is September 1st. However BDR's can be introduced at anytime, and Assemblyman Parks recommend all the BDR's be in the pipeline before November 1st, 2008. Mary Pennington suggested the group meet again in the later part of September and be assured from the members of the Task Force that there would be a quorum present at the State AIDS Task Force meeting and to ensure action will be taken on the options presented.

REVIEW OF 2007 LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO HIV/AIDS

Ms. Stoll-Hayadia reviewed three bills she tracked during the 2007 Legislative session related to HIV/AIDS issues. AB194 was a bill to adjust and shorten the timeframe required for HIV/STD testing of sexual assault perpetrators and victims. It was a bill which affected law enforcement and local health jurisdictions that provide testing. AB 443 bill introduced by Assemblyman Parks required post test counseling for all individuals newly diagnosed with HIV and ensured they received adequate, comprehensive, timely counseling on their diagnoses and options for HIV care in their community. Finally, SB 266 was introduced by Senator Steven Horsford and was the Perinatal HIV transmission prevention bill which required HIV testing to occur during the prenatal and post partum period in the labor and delivery setting. Assemblyman Parks commented on another bill AB 182 which abolished the task force in Nevada which had a general connection to our efforts. The bill authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to administer various HIV programs under the Grants Management Advisory Committee.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE 2009 LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO HIV/AIDS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE STATE AIDS TASK FORCE

Ms. Stoll-Hayadia asked for a group discussion to identify what possible topics the subcommittee would like to see brought forth for the 2009 Legislative session. She also reiterated the three topical ideas previously presented.

A suggestion was made for a BDR mandating HIV testing in the jail setting. Testing is required in long term correctional facilities but is not a mandate for short term correctional facilities. Both Washoe County Health District (WCHD) and Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) already provide HIV testing in partnership with law enforcement. In addition, it is known there is a very high prevalence of HIV and other Sexual Transmitted Diseases (STD) in the jail population and mandating HIV testing may help elevate it to an higher level of priority.

The second idea was to expand on AB 443, moving towards Universal testing for HIV by proposing HIV testing be included in the routine medical testing which is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If HIV is part of routine medical care, the stigma surrounding testing and treatment for HIV will be reduced because everyone would get tested when they see their primary care physician.

The third idea proposed was to alter either the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) or the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) regarding the ability to receive the licensure and certification to provide Rapid HIV testing which is also recommended by the CDC. In Nevada, many providers can not offer rapid testing due to licensure encumbrances. Assemblyman Parks would like to pursue a NRS revision to support rapid testing. Further discussion supported focusing on the Rapid HIV testing piece as a stepping stone that would lay the ground work on other issues. Ms. Pennington stated that Universal testing; was advantageous in the grant application process because Nevada had a process in place that recognized the importance of testing. Also, she stated that if we move in this direction, it may be helpful in securing future funding.

Ms. Stoll-Hayadia said a STD colleague suggested a BDR to revise statutes to allow for Partner Delivered Therapy (PDT). An example of PDT is when a client has Chlamydia and the partner may have Chlamydia, they both receive treatment to prevent the ping ponging effect. Again, PDT is recommended by the CDC and the Region STD providers to help prevent repeat transmission. The NRS prohibits the administration of medication in that manner.

In conclusion, two potential BDR proposals were defined using the draft language of one revised statute to allow for greater availability of Rapid HIV testing and second, revised statutes to allow for Partner Delivered Therapy in the treatment and prevention of STD's. Assemblyman Parks suggested asking Senator Horsford to offer BDR assistance and ask for guidance from the Legislative Council Bureau (LCB) Legal Division as to what would work well together and what would likely need a separate BDR. Ms. Stoll-Hayadia volunteered to write up the four proposed BDR summaries, disseminate to the subcommittee members and attach the drafts to today's meeting's minutes to be in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Assemblyman Parks will ask the LCB Legal Division to review and advise us of what will be needed to accomplish our efforts. Ms. Stoll-Hayadia made a motion to bring forward the following four BDR suggestions to the State AIDS Task Force's next meeting for discussion and approval: 1. A BDR related to Rapid HIV testing, 2. A BDR related to Partner Delivered Therapy, 3. A BDR related to testing in the jail setting and 4. A BDR related to Universal testing. Assemblyman Parks seconded the motion. **MOTION APPROVED**

Ms. Pennington encouraged everyone to attend and encourage other voting members to attend the State AIDS Task Force meeting, which would be very beneficial and thanked Ms. Stoll-Hayadia for organizing and presenting the information so well to minimize the time spent on this issue while still achieving a valuable result. Ms. Stoll-Hayadia also expressed thanks to everyone participating and looks forward to the change we can make for our communities in the next session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment. Meeting adjourned at **9:45 AM**.

DRAFT